

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 215253

14
ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00

/031 R

DRAFTED BY:EUR/WE:CKJOHNSON

APPROVED BY:D-MR RUSH

EUR-MR STABLER

S/S-MR MILLER

----- 012352

O 010212Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO NATO 0684

ALL NATO CAPITALS

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 215253

EXDIS

CORRECTED COPY (LINES MISSING END PARA 4)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT

SUBJECT: GOI VIEWS ON US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS

1. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR ORTONA CALLED ON DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH OCTOBER 31 UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY TO CONVEY GOI VIEWS ON US EUROPEAN RELATIONS IN LIGHT OF MIDDLE EAST CRISIS AND ON IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY. ORTONA HANDED OVER COPY OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS, TEXT OF WHICH IS TRANSMITTED IN SEPARATE TELEGRAM.

2. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID HE WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THE VIEWS SET FORTH IN THE PAPER, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS HELPFUL. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT WE HAVE BEEN VERY UPSET BY THE ATTITUDE TAKEN BY SOME NATO AND NON-NATO COUNTRIES WHICH WAS MANIFESTED IN REFUSAL TO ALLOW OUR USE OF THEIR CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 215253

AIRSPACE OR REFUELING FACILITIES IN THE RE-SUPPLY OPERATION, REFUSAL TO AUTHORIZE SHIPMENT OF US EQUIPMENT FROM OUR BASES, AND LACK OF COOPERATION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. IT SEEMED TO US THAT NATO WAS TAKING THE ATI-

TUDE THAT THE ALLIANCE WAS A ONE-WAY STREET, WHEREAS THE STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS WERE CLEARLY OF DIRECT CONCERN TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE. THE FALL OF ISRAEL WOULD HAVE COMPLETELY CHANGED THE BALANCE OF POWER IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND EUROPE AS WELL; IF WE HAD ALLOWED OUR ISRAELI ALLY TO BE OVERRUN, THE US

WOULD HAVE BEEN REGARDED BY ALL OF ITS ALLIES AS UNTRUST-WORTHY. ALL WE ASKED OF OUR NATO ALLIES WAS THAT THEY NOT IMPEDE THE SENDING OF OUR OWN EQUIPMENT TO ISRAEL. BUT IT APPEARED THAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PORTUGAL OUR ALLIES WERE DETERMINED TO SEPARATE THEMSELVES FROM US AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

3. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY WENT ON TO SAY THAT DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE CRISIS WE MAINTAINED OPEN COMMUNICATIONS WITH ALL PARTIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AS WELL AS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, IN ORDER TO PREVENT A WORSENING OF THE SITUATION. HE SAID HE COULD UNDERSTAND THE FEELING OF SOME IN NATO THAT WE DID NOT CONSULT WITH THEM AS MUCH AS WE SHOULD HAVE. UNFORTUNATELY EVENTS OFTEN MOVED SO QUICKLY THAT THERE WAS SIMPLY NO TIME FOR CONSULTATION. IN ANY EVENT THE NATO ALLIES SHOULD HAVE REALIZED THAT THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS WAS GRAVELY IMPORTANT TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE, AND UNFORTUNATELY SOME DID NOT APPRECIATE THIS POINT.

4. REFERRING TO ITALY'S POSITION, AMBASSADOR ORTONA SAID THAT THE GOI HAD TRIED DISCREETLY TO DO WHAT IT COULD TO BE HELPFUL TO THE US. HE REFERRED TO ROME'S COMPLIANCE WITH AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD'S REQUEST FOR DEMARCHE IN THE EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, AND SAID THAT ITALY HAD TO SOME EXTENT COMPLIED WITH OUR REQUESTS WITH REGARD TO OVERFLIGHTS AND LANDING RIGHTS. FOREIGN MINISTER MORO HAD DELIVERED AN EVEN-HANDED STATEMENT OF GOI POLICY BEFORE PARLIAMENT, DESPITE THE PRESSURES OF PUBLIC OPINION, PARTICULARLY FROM THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 215253

ORTONA SAID THAT HE FULLY AGREED THAT NATO MEMBERS SHOULD ACT LIKE ALLIES, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GOI HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ITS DEPENDENCE ON MIDDLE EAST OIL AND THE FACT THAT PUBLIC OPINION IN ITALY HAS TURNED AGAINST ISRAEL IN RECENT YEARS BECAUSE OF THE ISRAELIS' RELUCTANCE TO ENGAGE IN NEGOTIATIONS. IN SUMMING UP THE ESSENTIALS OF ITALY'S POSITION ORTONA SAID THAT 1) THE GOI FELT THAT IT HAD DISCREETLY DONE WHAT IT COULD TO BE HELPFUL TO US, AND 2) THE GOI FEELS THAT THE MORE WE TALK PUBLICLY ABOUT DISSENSION IN NATO THE MORE WE PLAY INTO THE SOVIETS' HANDS. WITH REGARD TO IMPROVED CONSULTATION IN THE ALLIANCE, ORTONA REMARKED THAT PERHAPS WHAT IS REQUIRED NOW IS FOURTEEN HOT LINES. THE

DEPUTY SECRETARY ACKNOWLEDGED THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSULTATION, BUT OBSERVED THAT CONSULTATION IS NOT NECESSARILY THE ANSWER TO EVERY PROBLEM. NO AMOUNT OF CONSULTATION, FOR INSTANCE, SEEMS TO DISPEL THE ERRONEOUS IDEA THAT WE ARE DEALING WITH THE SOVIET UNION OVER THE HEADS OF OUR ALLIES.

ORTONA CONCLUDED BY UNDERLINING THE POINT IN HIS INSTRUCTIONS WHICH AFFIRMS THE IMPORTANCE OF DETENTE AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT DETENTE MUST BE BASED ON A DIALOGUE BETWEEN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLICIES, DOCUMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE215253
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter:
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750029-0125
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731166/abqcejjq.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <26-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOI VIEWS ON US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PEPR, IT, US
To: ROME INFO NATO
ALL NATO CAPITALS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005